

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 9902

Application of:

Christopher M. Benson

Art Unit: 3627

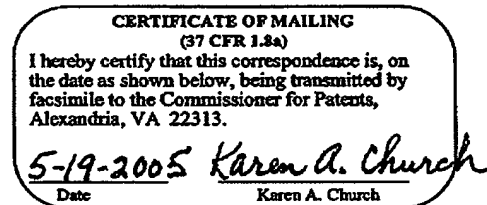
Serial No.: 10/010,983

Examiner: J. Kramer

Filed: December 6, 2001

For: CLUSTERING OF RETAIL TERMINALS

MS Appeal Brief
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



RESPONSE TO OFFICE COMMUNICATION

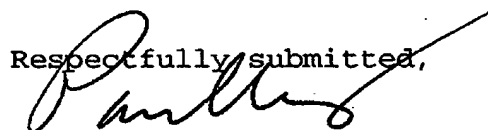
Sir:

This is a response to the Office communication mailed April
28, 2005.

The Office has requested that Appellant correct its appeal
brief to include a rejection of claims 1-5 under 35 USC 103(a)
as being unpatentable over Freedman 4,318,173 in view of Suski
(taken as Suzuki 4,360,872). However, such rejection is not of
record. Therefore, Appellant believes that it would be improper
to correct its appeal brief to include the requested rejection.

The Final Office Action (Paper No. 6) mailed June 2, 2004, was the only action in which the Suzuki reference was raised. In that action, only claims 6-13 were rejected over Freedman 4,318,173 in view of Suzuki 4,360,872. Appellant finds no rejection of claims 1-5 over Freedman 4,318,173 in view of Suzuki 4,360,872 of record.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul W. Martin
Attorney for Appellant
Reg. No. 34870
(937) 445-2990

Dayton, Ohio

MAY 19 2005